

UINTAH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
VERNAL, UTAH
Submitted to the Utah State Library in September, 2005

TECHNOLOGY PLAN
2005-2007

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I. Mission

This technology plan supports the Library's mission to provide access of information, materials, and services to all members of the community and Uintah County to encourage a lifetime of learning. It supersedes the previous Technology plan of 2003-2005. This Technology Plan was adopted by the Uintah County Public Library Board of Directors' Technology Committee in August, 2004.

Library's mission statement:

"The Uintah County Library provides materials, services and internet resources of popular interest to county residents and others, emphasizing and encouraging reading by children, providing for and supplementing the educational needs of the county, and furnishing timely, accurate information."

II. Introduction

Uintah County Public Library has experienced a remarkable surge in activity in the past few years. The Uintah County population was 25,926 on the 2000 census, which was a 29.6 increase over the 1990 census. Uintah County Library circulated 416,848 books in the year 2000. In 2004 the number increased to 535,519. Total checkouts and checkins for 2004 were 999,953. An oil boom began in 2005 with the population climbing at a rapid rate.

Use of computers have become extremely popular, with locals and tourists alike. We have logged on 1,774 people to our "visitor Internet" terminals in August through September 26, 2005. Our facility is bursting at the seams with new and improved technology, including many grant-funded public Internet terminals, workstations donated by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The library board and commissioners are presently working toward the construction of a new library facility in 2007. We hope to increase the size of our current building, and our Technology Plan reflects our hopes and dreams for expansion toward a new high-tech library.

III. Current Technology & Services

The library currently offers the following equipment and software:

- 31 Windows 95 workstations allowing varying access to the library catalog; the internet; applications such as Microsoft Office and the WordPerfect Suite; access to remote reference databases such as Utah Pioneer; Locally subscribed databases through the World Wide Web or CD-ROM; and, access to local history materials
- 9 adult Internet terminals with Deep Freeze security. Microsoft Office, and Internet

Explorer; Some machines have CD burners, including four Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation public access computers and one Gates Content Server.

- 6 printers (LazerJet)
- Public Pioneer journal and reference database
- Color prints and two-sided black and white prints
- 1 roller Cannon 4060 scanner
- 6 flatbed scanner
- 26 computers (staff & public) with CD burners
- Content filters (as required by Utah and federal law)
- Desktop publishing software and CD-ROM encyclopedias
- A web-based catalog which enables patrons to place holds from home
- A library automation/circulation system, licensed through epixtech
- SixWindow NT/2000 authenticated LAN servers, administrated locally, providing staff

and public access (as appropriate) to circulation and other system management functions; internet access; access to local and remote reference databases; access to appropriate user applications including data storage, circulation functions, and outside public web access.

- Internet access through the resources of the Utah Education Network.
- Security software and hardware, including a firewall
- Communication and transport links, including telephone and a TI data line ternet

access

- Varying network support equipment, including network cards and wiring, switches, hubs, a router and CSU/DSU
- Printing capabilities available to both the public and staff, variously available through both network and stand-alone laser and inkjet printers
- Three copy machines
- 2 Microfilm readers/printers
- 2 Orian VHS- HQ TV

IV. Goals & Timeline

The primary technological goal of the Uintah County Public Library is to provide high-quality computer access in the library, sufficient to serve the needs of patrons and visitors.

One-year Technology Plan:

1. Continue to plan and develop electronic access to Library-held local history materials.
2. Continue maintenance and enhancement of the Library web page
3. Enhancement of the public internet access to the Library catalog through Dynix's Horizon Information Portal upgrade.
4. Continue to investigate, evaluate, and purchase commercially available internet databases
5. Evaluate the viability of continuing to apply for E-rate funding, given the amount of staff time that is expended in preparing application forms
6. Continue to define and address public privacy issues.
7. Work towards addressing public handicapped accessibility to library resources in general, and technology resources specifically.

Two-year Technology Plan:

1. Establish a digitization center to process local history resources.

Three-year Technology Plan:

1. Continue the migration from CD-Rom based tools to Web based resources.

2. Develop a replacement/upgrade schedule for Library equipment.
3. Continue to work towards the conversion of Library local history materials to electronic format
4. Improve and increase the number of public access points to electronic information
5. Because of limited Library facilities, manage shelf space by the replacement or initial purchase of electronic products instead of print resources, where appropriate
6. Address network-specific issues, such as adequate backup, access speed, and file storage capabilities
7. Continue to address and monitor LAN and Wan security issues
8. Evaluate and assess broadband internet access vendors following expiration of our five-year contract for T1 service through UBTA-UBET.
9. Our goals are to provide outside training opportunities for staff members
10. Direct, personal assistance is to be provided to the public as time and staff resources permit.
11. Resources are to be provided in a manner that is as straightforward and simple as possible
12. User-oriented brochures, handouts, charts and other aids are to be made available to patrons.

VIII Evaluation

The library seeks to evaluate progress toward these ends and plans for updates to the Technology Plan. Patrons constantly make suggestions for improvements in our technological offerings. Board members also are very interested in library technology and are supportive of new projects and initiatives, and generate thoughtful discussion. There is a constant dialogue among the staff about problems, solutions, questions, and pitfalls regarding our technology, and ways to better serve our patrons.